

MINUTES  
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES  
MARCH 20, 1997

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Thursday, March 20, 1997, at 9:00 a.m., in Room H-2 of the Henley Building of Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson, Mississippi.

**Members present:** Alton Bankston, Joanna Heidel, Henry Hudspeth, John Junkin, II, Patricia Puckett, Perrin Purvis, William Seal, Hazel Terry, and George Walker.

**Member absent:** Yvonne Brown.

**Staff in attendance:** Dr. Olon Ray, Executive Director, Becky Cade, Dr. Larry Day, Deborah Gilbert, Sandra Lucas, Eloise Richardson, Dr. Evelyn Webb, and Frankie Walton-White.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Walker at 9:00 a.m.

**PRELIMINARIES**

The invocation was given by Perrin Purvis.

Chairman Walker welcomed visitors Dr. Billy Thames, President of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, and Mr. Billy Hewes, newly appointed SBCJC member.

Mr. Walker thanked Dr. Thames for all the hospitality shown SBCJC members during the visit to the Wesson Campus of Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

**Approval of Minutes**

On a motion by John Junkin, seconded by Alton Bankston, the Board approved the minutes of the February 21, 1997, meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**Review of Agenda**

On a motion by William Seal, seconded by Alton Bankston, the Board unanimously adopted the agenda after deleting item V. Reports/Action, I., MS Higher Education Assistance Corporation Appointment.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Olon Ray reported on the activities of the Council on Educational Technology. The Council has met with members of the Mississippi House of Representatives and Senate to present a status report on their efforts to assure that educational agencies are coordinating technology initiatives in the state.

Dr. Ray presented a draft copy of a recommendations made by the CCN Taskforce for the organization and structure of a permanent advisory council to deal with electronic and distance

learning issues. It is proposed that the Council will be named the Electronic Advisory Council (Exhibit A). The report will be presented to the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College Presidents on Tuesday, March 25, 1997, for their endorsement.

Dr. Ray also reported on the Phi Theta Kappa All State Academic Team Recognition Luncheon held on March 18, 1997. Fifty-five outstanding Mississippi community and junior college students were recognized during the ceremonies. He thanked Board members for their attendance and participation at the luncheon.

Dr. Ray reported on the activities of a taskforce established by Governor Fordice's executive order that brings together agencies and persons responsible for planning and expending funds for the state's workforce program. The taskforce is in the process of designing a structure for local input.

Dr. Ray attended an East Central Community College's District Workforce Council meeting held at Peavey Electronics.

Dr. Ray stated that the April Board meeting scheduled to be held at Mississippi Delta Community College had been postponed and would possibly be rescheduled for September. The April Board meeting will be held in Jackson at the SBCJC office.

Dr. Ray distributed a brochure on the Natchez Literary Celebration set for May 29-31, 1997. The May SBCJC meeting will be scheduled sometime during the celebration. He also distributed a copy of the Mississippi Employment Security Commission's labor market statistics for January 1997, (Exhibit B).

Dr. Ray also distributed an article on the physical therapist assistant program at Pearl River Community College (Exhibit C).

At the last meeting, the Board voted unanimously to prepare a resolution of appreciation for presentation to Mr. William H. Bunch, Jr., for his service to Mississippi's community and junior colleges. Dr. Ray presented the resolution for the Chairman's signature.

### **DIVISION DIRECTORS' REPORT**

Dr. Evelyn Webb reported on the following activities of the Accountability and Support Services Division:

The Commission on Proprietary Schools and College Registration Sub-Committee has held a workshop to review the laws governing proprietary schools in the State of Mississippi. Recommendations will be made by the sub-committee to the CPSCR for needed amendments or changes to the law.

Plans for the HIV/AIDS Perinatal Video Conferencing Sessions are ongoing. University Medical Center will sponsor a three hour conference that will be repeated four times. Dates for summer sessions are now being set and an informational brochure is being developed.

Spring enrollment audits have been scheduled and plans are to complete all the audits in a one month period.

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert reported on the following activities of the Finance Division:

The Funding and Formula Study Committee has distributed surveys to all community and junior colleges requesting information on fixed costs, non-credit courses, and how the non-credit courses are funded. The Committee will look at the funding formula distribution based on a FTE basis as compared to our current headcount distribution. Other states have been contacted for their procedures in disbursing funds.

The Finance staff is currently in the process of tracking legislative bills that affect the SBCJC.

Dr. Ray and Deborah Gilbert attended a meeting of the Moody Institute Trust Fund Board on March 5, 1997.

The SBCJC statistical data booklet for FY 1996 is near completion.

A copy of the SBCJC 1997 calendar of events was distributed to each Board member which included a listing of all names and addresses for SBCJC members, staff, community and junior college presidents, Commission on Proprietary Schools and College Registration members, and Mississippi Workforce Development Council Members.

Mrs. Eloise Richardson reported on the following activities of the Program Division:

Several vocational-technical program applications have been received and will be brought before the SBCJC for approval at a later date.

## **REPORTS/ACTION**

### **MACJC**

Dr. Billy Thames reported on the following items discussed at the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College's meeting on February 25, 1997:

The Association approved the report of a committee appointed to study the position of the Director of Affiliated Activities.

Dr. Olon Ray announced the names of newly appointed SBCJC members, Sara Fox and Billy Hewes, and the reappointment of George Walker. He also distributed an MPACT (Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Plan) brochure and stated that the initial enrollment period will end on April 30, 1997.

Dr. Ray also announced the retirement of William H. Bunch, Jr., and the Association voted unanimously to prepare a resolution for presentation to Mr. Bunch in appreciation of his service to Mississippi's community and junior colleges.

Dr. Ray discussed with the Presidents an initiative of Representative Charles Young, asking IHL, community and junior colleges, and public schools to investigate ways to better utilize resources to assist public schools in improving the overall educational status of failed schools.

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert distributed a copy of funding projections based on House and Senate appropriation recommendations. Also included was a scenario reflecting an SBCJC approved change in the base amount of the funding formula from 4.6% to 5% of the prior

year's appropriation. After a discussion, the Association agreed to delay action with regard to the change in the base amount of the formula until the Funding and Formula Study Committee had an opportunity to review the change at the February 28, meeting. The

Committee was asked to convey their actions to the Association over the CCN as soon after that meeting as possible.

The Association agreed to allow both bonding bills, the Senate's at \$50,000,000 and House's at \$15,000,000, to go forward into conference and deal with the conferees accordingly at the appropriate time.

The Presidents received a request from Mr. Larry Temple, representing the Department of Human Services, to work with community and junior colleges' personnel to provide training in connection with welfare reform efforts. The Association voted unanimously to support DHS in their welfare reform efforts.

Dr. Billy Thames distributed a copy of a report on monies collected from Phi Theta Kappa sponsors to support the All State Academic Team Recognition Luncheon, set for March 18, 1997, and briefly covered plans for the luncheon.

Dr. David Cole reported on the MACJC Technology Committee. Mr. James Williams, Chairman of the CJCWAN Task Force, distributed a telecommunication contacts report and briefly covered areas of concern including staffing requirements, annual training costs, the establishment of software standards, maintenance costs, the upgrade of equipment, and increased band width for the state-wide network.

Dr. Eddie Smith reported on the MACJC committee assigned to examine open admission policies of community and junior colleges with respect to a Remedial Decree issued by Judge Neil Biggers concerning the Ayers Case.

Dr. Smith also reported on the Moody Institute Trust Fund Board established in 1990 for MACJC leadership and staff development opportunities. A meeting of the Board is scheduled for March 5, 1997, at 10:00 a.m. in room 108 of the R & D Center in Jackson.

Dr. Tommy Davis reported on a MACJC committee assigned to investigate and make recommendations regarding football recruiting and out-of-state students.

Dr. Alexander recognized the upcoming retirements of Copiah-Lincoln Community College President, Dr. Billy Thames, and Jones County Junior College President, Dr. Terrell Tisdale.

#### EdNet Follow-Up

Mr. John Junkin reported no new action on the EdNet follow-up, but asked that the item be kept on the agenda for future action.

## Committee of the Whole Report

### Finance Committee

On a motion by John Junkin, and a second by Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to approve the General Fund 2298 Disbursements for April, May and June 1997, in the amounts of \$7,775,116, \$6,428,771, and \$6,428,770, respectively (Exhibit D).

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Perrin Purvis, the Board voted unanimously to approve the March 31, 1997, Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement from Funds 4080 and 4110, in the total amount of \$1,869,256.32 (Exhibit E).

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert presented an updated report on telecommunications bond fund expenditures through March 11, 1997 (Exhibit F).

Mrs. Gilbert also presented financial statements for funds 2291, 3291, and 4300 for Board members' review (Exhibit G). No action was required.

In other business, Mrs. Gilbert reported that all SBCJC members and staff are covered by a \$2,000,000 fidelity bond.

### Workforce Education Report

Chairman Walker updated Board members on activities discussed at the State Workforce Council meeting held on March 12, 1997. He also reported that recommended funding for workforce training efforts still remains at the current level of funding. On a motion by John Junkin and a second by Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to send a letter to the members of the Mississippi Legislature and the state's elected officials expressing concern over the ramifications of failure to adequately fund workforce training programs.

Mr. Walker reported his attendance at the Southeastern Employment and Training Association Conference (SETA) in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, March 10 and 11, 1997. Dr. Olon Ray and Ed Schneider also attended.

### GED Report

Mrs. Eloise Richardson distributed a copy of the 1996 GED Statistical Report (Exhibit H). The report reflects a 12% increase in the number of GEDs issued in 1996 over 1995. There was also a 31% increase in the number of people taking the GED test.

### Funding and Formula Study Committee Report

Mr. John Junkin reported that the Committee is making progress and will meet at 3:00 p.m. today at the SBCJC office in Jackson.

### Legislative Report

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert distributed and discussed with Board members, an updated report of current House and Senate Legislation affecting the SBCJC (Exhibit I).

Amendments to Standards

Dr. Larry Day presented a proposed amendment to SBCJC standards with regard to enrollment audits. Research and studies are now being done to examine existing standards and how they affect the distribution of state funds and recommendation for changes will be presented to the Board at a later date.

Election of Officers

Election of officers for the term beginning July 1, 1997, through June 30, 1998, was held.

On a motion by Joanna Heidel and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to re-elect George Walker as Chairman.

On a motion by Hazel Terry and a second by Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to elect Patricia Puckett, Vice-Chairman.

Travel Authorizations

Chairman Walker asked for requests to authorize travel reimbursements for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. On a motion by Alton Bankston, seconded by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to approve requests for reimbursement of travel expenses to the following:

George Walker for attending the SETA Conference on March 10 and 11, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; the State Workforce Council Meeting on March 12; and a Convocation in DeKalb on April 24, 1997.

Perrin Purvis for attending a Funding and Formula Study Committee meeting on February 28, 1997.

Yvonne Brown, Joanna Heidel, and Hazel Terry for attending a Phi Theta Kappa Recognition Luncheon on March 18, 1997.

Hazel Terry for attending a meeting at East Mississippi Community College Golden Triangle location on April 2, 1997.

Patricia Puckett for attending a SACS evaluation at Northwest Mississippi Community College on March 31, 1997.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

---

George Walker, Chairman

---

Olson E. Ray  
Executive Director